

ArtNexus

The Nexus Between Latin America and the Rest of the World

Hybrids of Contemplation, Interaction and Performance:

a display of abuse and power
on the Internet
Helsinki, Finland

Dolores de 10 hasta 22 hrs. (*Dolores from 10 am to 10 p.m.*) is a net-performance that was online exactly the same day when "Americans" were "thanksgiving" once more. On November 22 2001, Coco Fusco and Ricardo Domínguez presented a performance that circulated through the Internet thanks to the Finnish Contemporary Art Center Kiasma, from Helsinki. Twelve hours of docu-drama took place in a web site (<http://www.kiasma.fi/ars/dolores>) which simulated a place in the Mexican-US border where the rights of a woman worker were being abused. The screen showed live scenes based on real facts between a worker (Coco Fusco) and her boss (R. Domínguez) in an assembly plant in Tijuana – Mexico during 1998.

The performance was shaped as a soap opera, the usual and popular dramatic style all along (Latin) America. This tele-event which could be seen from all around the world thanks to the internet, utilized as resource the documentary image that has been spread around by the aesthetics of video surveillance. The event promoted the contemplative state of viewers that use the net from the stand point of entertainment and at no risk. This way of presenting the work of art by editing, screening and displaying the show from specific points of view (according to the positioning of the surveillance cameras) generated a hybrid that clearly emphasizes subjects related to the control and security of those places to which we usually have access. The web site of *Dolores* also included a chat room where viewers could interact by describing, making commentaries and suggesting ideas about what was happening in the represented place. Having incorporated this chat room to the *Dolores* web site means to insist on the event generating by the presence of a witness audience that has the possibility of interacting, following the spacial laws that have been imposed by the tradition of spectacle.

More information: <http://www.artnexus.com/servlet/NewsDetail?documentid=8077>